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Next generation sequencing guided molecular diagnostic tests in non-small-cell lung cancer

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Coming to the Netherlands was the greatest gift in my life. Time flies. I have now come to the destination of my Ph.D. training. Looking back to the past years in Groningen, I've got so much to appreciate to all of you who might be reading my thesis in the coming days.

Starting my Ph.D. was not easy. Moving forward was even harder. Fortunately, I have Prof. Anke van den Berg as one of my supervisors. She is a strict supervisor. There used to be rumors that students come to her office with a smile but leave with 'tears' by her criticism. No scientific flaws can flee under her eyes, no matter how small they are, e.g. illogically sorted tables, unexplained figure legends, strange numbers, complicated storylines, poorly arranged project plans, unstructured manuscripts, etc. I had too much of those problems in the beginning, which may challenge one's patience and temper. But Anke never gave me up. Her consistent strictness on research and on-time guidance gradually adjusted my projects on a right track to move forward. They say doing a Ph.D. is like a phoenix born from ashes. Maybe I am still a bird unfledged and young in science. But I am fully prepared for future academic challenges by Anke's training and influence and I believe the spirits I learned from her will carry me further.

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I would like the end my acknowledgement using a song. We've come a long way from where we began. I will tell you all about it when I see you again.

Jiacong Wei

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